



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*Southern District of Indiana*

*United States Attorney*

*10 West Market Street*

*(317)226-6333*

*Suite 2100  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-3048*

*TDD (317)226-5438*

**July 10, 2006**

*FAX NUMBERS:  
Criminal (317)226-6125  
Administration (317)226-5176  
Civil (317)226-5027  
FLU (317) 226-6133  
OCDETF (317)226-5953*

**CONTACT PERSON:**

**SUSAN W. BROOKS**

United States Attorney

(317) 226-6333

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**POSEY COUNTY FARMER SENTENCED FOR BANK FRAUD**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Susan W. Brooks, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that STEVEN W. GRABERT, 58, of Mt. Vernon, Indiana, was sentenced to 24 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge Richard L. Young following his guilty plea to bank fraud and conversion of mortgaged property. This case was the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Department of Agriculture.

GRABERT admitted that between January 1, 2002 and January 1, 2004, he obtained loans from three different banks based on misrepresentations about the financial condition of his farming business, Grabert Farms. GRABERT admitted that he made false representations to the banks that certain loans were for the purchase farm equipment when no farm equipment was actually purchased. GRABERT also caused grain that was mortgaged and pledged to the United States Commodity Credit Corporation to be sold by individuals who did not have Commodity

Credit Corporation liens recorded with the Consolidated Grain and Barge Company. These sales were in violation of a loan agreement GRABERT made with the Commodity Credit Corporation.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Todd S. Shellenbarger, who prosecuted the case for the government, Judge Young also imposed 4 years supervised release following GRABERT's release from imprisonment. GRABERT was ordered to make restitution in the total amount of \$313,691 to one of the banks involved and to the Indiana State Farm Service Agency.

###